

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Michel Abi-Karam Atty. Docket No. 103120-00058

Serial No.: New application Examiner: Not Assigned

Filed: March 29, 2004 Art Unit: Not Assigned

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR CONTROLLING THE THICKNESS OF A ROLLED PRODUCT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the U.S. PTO  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: March 29, 2004

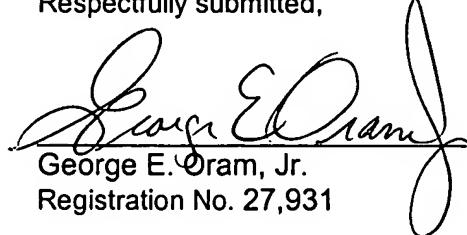
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
  - a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
  - b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- 4. The references were cited in a counterpart foreign application. A foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information together with English language references.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 103120-00058	SERIAL NO. New application
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT		M. Abi-Karam	
		FILING DATE		GROUP	
		March 29, 2004			

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES NO PART.
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AK	"Automatic Gauge Control-A Primer", James C. Parks, July/August 2000, pgs. 60-62	
AL	"Dynamic Control Of Tension, Thickness and Flatness For A Tandem Cold Mill", Tirlochan S. Bilkhu, AISE Steel Technology, Oct. 2001, pgs. 49-54	
AM	"Gage Improvement At LTV Steel, Indiana Harbor Works' 80-in. Tandem Mill", Robin N. Malone et al., Aug. 1992, pgs. 70-78	
AM	"Electrical Modernization of 52-in., 5-Stand Reduction Mill at Midwest", Kenneth E. Hand et al., Aug. 1992, pgs. 60-69	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.